

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary
EQIP General FA 15 Savannah-Forest

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: EQIP General FA 15 Savannah-Forest		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the land offered in this application have a Forest Stewardship Plan or equivalent?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will this application contain at least one (1) practice that treats a field(s) that is eroding in excess of “T” or gullied areas within the field(s)? (Run RUSLE II)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will this application have at least one (1) practice that directly benefits threatened and endangered or at-risk wildlife species (plant or animal) as identified by NRCS, South Carolina DNR, and/or the US Fish and Wildlife Service? (Any practice on land where an identified and documented Threatened or Endangered, at risk, OR candidate species on SC DNR RTE data layer. T&E listed species should be confirmed by a biologist)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the SC Wildlife Habitat Index for this application reflect a habitat net effect benefit of 0.50 or greater? (Planned index value - Existing Index Value)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will the application include practices that address Longleaf pine habitat restoration in the proper soil type, within the historic range of the Longleaf pine?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does this application include implementation of buffers (393/386) or invasive species control (314/315)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does the application include practices that benefit pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will the majority (>50%) of the land offered in this application lie in a watershed designated on SCDHEC's 303d list of impaired watersheds or is in a watershed with an existing 319 project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will this application contain practices that exclude cattle or other livestock from environmentally sensitive areas. (Examples are wetlands, stream side slopes, streams, and riparian stream buffers)? This question applies to grazed forestland only. Answer "NO" if this is not grazed forestland.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Has the applicant had an EQIP contract cancelled or terminated within the last three years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Catawba Forestland	
1. Does this application include practices that address soil erosion and/or soil quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does this application include practices that address degraded plant condition?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does this application include practices that address inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does this application include practices that address water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does this application include practices that address air quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Edisto Forestland	
6. Does this application include practices that will address multiple resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does this application include practices that improve wildlife habitat for species of concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does this application include practices that will that treat invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

9. Does this application include prescribed burning?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Lower Pee Dee Forestland	
10. Will this application address Wildfire Hazard through firebreaks, burning or timber stand improvement?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Will this application address Reforestation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will this be the first time the applicant has been funded under this land use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Pee Dee Forestland	
13. Does this application address Degraded Plant Condition?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Does this application address Water Quality Degradation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Does this application address Inadequate Habitat for Fish & Wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Does this application address Soil Quality Degradation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Does this application address Insufficient Water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Salkehatchie Forestland	
18. Does this application improve forest productivity by planting trees?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Does this application include two of the three following practices: Forest Stand Improvement, Prescribed Burning and/or conservation Cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Does this application address the control of invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
21. Does this application create connectivity with other forestland to create wildlife corridors?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Saluda Forestland	
22. Has the resource concern(s) been documented by NRCS for a period longer than 1 year?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Does this application include two of the three following practices: Forest Stand Improvement, Prescribed Burning and or/ Conservation Cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. Will this application address the eradication of one or more invasive species as included in the South Carolina Noxious and invasive weeds list?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Will the practice(s) in this application address forest water quality health by including water bars or establishing permanent and/or native vegetation on eroding forest roads and/or riparian buffers?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
26. Does this application include the re-establishment of Pine stands wherein the landowner agrees to include a minimum of 5 percent of the total, re-established acreage for wildlife openings?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Savannah Forestland	
27. Has the resource concern(s) been documented by NRCS for a period longer than 1 year?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
28. If approved, will this contract be the only active contract for this participant, other than a CAP contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Will the practices in this application address forest water quality health by including waterbars or stream crossings or by establishing permanent vegetation on eroding forest roads?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Does this application include Forest Stand Improvement, Prescribed Burning, or Conservation Cover to improve forest management and/or reduce fuel load?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
31. Will this application address the control of one or more invasive or undesirable species including those listed on the SC Noxious and Invasive Species List?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Does this application include re-establishment of timber on cutover land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Tyger Forestland	
33. Does this application address soil erosion on forest roads and logging decks by installing waterbars, critical area plantings, stream crossings, heavy use areas or repairing access roads?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Does this application address water quality through reforestation and associated forestry practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. Does this application address habitat degradation through prescribed burning (including associated practices) or herbicide treatment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: